

**CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL NO. 05-21,  
2021 FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL CHANGES (FPL) AND LOW  
INCOME SUBSIDY (LIS) INCOME LIMITS**

**DATE: FEBRUARY 11, 2021**

**Manual: Aged, Blind, and Disabled Medicaid**

**Change No: 05-21**

**To: County Directors of Social Services**

**I. BACKGROUND AND CONTENT OF CHANGE**

Federal law requires poverty levels to be adjusted annually on the basis of the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This letter issues the 2021 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) income limits effective April 1, 2021.

**II. POLICY UPDATE**

**A. MA-2252, Non-MAGI Medicaid Income/Reserve Limits, has been updated with 2021 amounts.**

**B. 2021 Federal Poverty Income/Reserve Limits are programmed in NC FAST. The system will use appropriate income/reserve limits for all applications and recertifications, including retroactive application months.**

**C. COLA Disregard**

1. Refer to policy MA-2250.IX.A.3. for additional instructions.
2. COLA disregard is programmed in NC FAST. The system will apply the disregard.

**D. MA-2311.IV., LIS Income Limit Table 1 is updated.**

**E. DHB-5179, MAABD Eligibility Overview Chart is updated.**

**III. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION**

The 2021 FPL income limit increase is effective April 1, 2021.

If you have any questions regarding information in this change notice, please contact your [Medicaid Operational Support Team Representative](#).

DocuSigned by:

*Dave Richard*

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Dave Richard  
Deputy Secretary, NC Medicaid